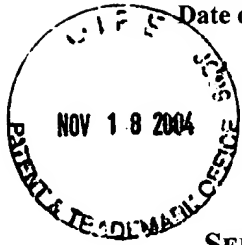


Express Mail Label No.: EV313923700US

Attorney Docket 26597-571

Date of Deposit: November 18, 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Jones *et al.*

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/766,880

EXAMINER: Jeffrey Siew

FILING DATE: January 19, 2001

ART UNIT: 1637

FOR: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR SEPARATING AND
DETECTING NUCLEIC ACID

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the May 27, 2004 Office Action in the above-identified application. With the extension, the response is due on or before November 27, 2004. A check in the amount of \$980.00 in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3), is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 26597-571. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles E. Bell".

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529

David E. Johnson, Reg. No. 41,874

Charles E. Bell, Reg. No. 48,128

Attorneys for Applicants

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Dated: November 18, 2004

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